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Title: Regarding need to implement the Sabari Rail Project.

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (PATHANAMTHITTA): I request the Government to implement the Sabari Rail Project. Sabari Rail is a dream project of Kerala as it links Sabarimala Shrine with the rest of the country. The Sabarimala Shrine is visited by four crore devotees from various parts of the country every year. Moreover, Sabari Rail connects many remote areas in the State of Kerala. The project was declared in 1997-98 Railway Budget but is still pending. During the last 18 years, the Government has spent a sum of Rs. 163 crore on this project while the actual cost of implementation will be Rs. 1600 crore. I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Railway Minister towards the Hon'ble Chief of Kerala's recent statement that the State will bear 50 per cent cost for implementation of the Project. Therefore, I humbly request the Government to kindly take the further steps with regard to the implementation of the Sabari Rail Project.